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## DATA CENTER GIVEN QUALIFIED BACKING

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20 (UPI)—House and Senate investigators reported Sunday that a national data center was needed, but they warned that it must have safeguards to prevent Federal officials from having a pushbutton dossier on millions of Americans.

"Difficulties in insuring personal privacy should be worked out simultaneously with steps taken toward establishment of a statistical servicing center," said the Congressional Subcommittee on Economic Statistics.

During extensive hearings, the panel was told that a complex system of codes and keys could be used to provide such safeguards in the proposed computerized center.

Existing statistics now dispersed in the files of various Federal agencies would be compiled by the proposed center, which is being considered by the Bureau of the Budget. It would provide ready access to information needed for the Government's economic and social planning.

"Work on the center should go forward at a pace slow enough to allow reasonable assurance that disclosure problems can be and are being controlled," the subcommittee said. "Indeed, the center might improve on the present system safeguarding the rights of individuals to personal privacy."

\* Of the Joint Economic Committee

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